

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete prior Abstract starting at page 26, line 2 and ending at line 15 and insert the following:

--A vibrating knife includes an excision member which is brought into contact with a target and vibrated in a direction at an angle to a traveling direction in excision so as to excise the target. The excision member includes a leading end face located on a forward side in the traveling direction to excise the target, and a trailing end face located on a backward side in the traveling direction to separate the excised target from the excision member. The leading end face is formed of either a hydrophobic surface or hydrophilic surface depending on properties of the target, and the trailing end face is formed of a different surface.--